

EIMOUR MOKTA

DOE/PHRI Special Medical Care Program in the Republic of the Marshall Islands

November 28, 2000

Paul Seligman, M.D.
Deputy Assistant Secretary
U.S. Department of Energy (EH - 6)
Office of Health
19901 Germantown Road
Germantown, MD. 20874-1290

Dear Paul:

We had a very productive meeting with Deborah Atwood, CFO - 177 Health Care Program, today, to discuss how our two programs could coordinate to better serve our overlapping patient population. Among the topics discussed were the coordination of outer island trips, medication and equipment supplies, physicians and medical records.

With regards to medical records, Ms. Atwood agreed that an electronic medical record (EMR) system for our patient population would make the delivery of healthcare more effective and efficient. We are both particularly interested in its use for facilitating patient follow-up. Ms. Atwood has an extensive background in information systems as well as in medical records. She is familiar with the medical record system our program has chosen and feels it would integrate quite well with the 177 computer system. (177 currently does not have an EMR system.) While we did not address specific costs and the exact details with regards to training of her staff, which would need to be discussed before implementation, we all agreed that a shared EMR system would benefit both of our programs.

We hope to have further discussions with Ms. Atwood on this topic after she has looked into the "Practice Partner Software" a bit more. Also, preliminary talks with Donald Capelle, RMI Secretary of Health, Sandy Alfred, Acting Hospital Administrator - Majuro Hospital and Senator Abacca Anjain, with regards to the EMR system, have been positive. Thank you for your time and effort with regards to this matter.

Sincerely yours,



/Neal A. Palafox, M.D., M.P.H.
Principal Investigator

cc. **Debra** Atwood, William Jackson, Henry Preston, Lola Colombe